TL 1401

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No. of pages: ~~2~~ (3)

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Date: June 21, 1989

Two recent Reuter despatches. Probably you've heard it all. Radio Australia reported this morning that 4 ET students left Vatican embassy after being assured of their safety. Negotiations still going on with 2 in Japanese embassy. All originally sought political asylum, feared arrest and torture. Mgr. xxxxxx (name unclear) of Vatican embassy said 4 left voluntarily. Had sought refuge because of arrest in Bali of colleague who had links with Fretilin. Human rights source (not named) told Radio Australia 40 Fretilin supporters had been arrested over last 2 months in ET. My comment: This all seems to be following the patterns of the previous fiasco of the ET students who sought refuge in the Dutch embassy.

Sent your material by fax to Sidney and Korinna plus additional Indonesian language packet to Sidney of pressures on Belo. Assume they have done some of their usual things. Sidney on TV again last night, this time denouncing Chinese gulag. She was on phone to Portugal when I called her yesterday. Carmel left message to call from Lisbon, but though she missed me by just 10 minutes I couldn't get thru on 3 tries--line busy, non-English speakers on line (Sock Foon out at time, so couldn't translate), then no answer at all. I'll also likely fax press release to various media/ngo/govt offices in day or 2 putting events in perspective. Any more developments?